



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Greg Risling
Public Information Officer
213-257-2000
GRisling@da.lacounty.gov
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

Sept. 2, 2015

Man Charged in Connection With Theft of O.J. Simpson's Heisman Trophy

An Apple Valley man has been charged with stashing away O.J. Simpson's 1968 Heisman Trophy that was stolen from the University of Southern California more than 20 years ago, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Lewis Eugene Starks Jr. (dob 1/28/59) was charged in case BA439447 with one count of receiving stolen property. He is scheduled to be arraigned today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Prosecutors said the statue, given annually to college football's top player, was stolen along with Simpson's jersey and a plaque on July 28, 1994, from USC's Heritage Hall.

Starks is accused of being in possession of the university's copy of the trophy and the plaque, knowing that it had been stolen.

Prosecutors added Starks allegedly attempted to sell the items late last year. He was arrested Monday.

Prosecutors are recommending bail be set at \$70,000. The criminal complaint also notes that Starks has a prior burglary conviction.

If convicted as charged, Starks faces up to six years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department's Art Theft Detail.

#

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.